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Freeborn & Peters LLP

June 22, 2004

VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

Mr. Vernon A. Williams

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings

JUN 23 2004

Part of
Public Record

Secretary

Surface Transportation Board

1925 K Street, N.W.

Washington, DC 20423-0001



**Re: Surface Transportation Board Docket No. AB-6 (Sub-No. 421X);
The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company Abandonment
of Brainerd, Minnesota**

Attorneys at Law

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Dear Secretary Williams:

Enclosed are ten copies plus the original affidavit of publication from the Brainerd Dispatch regarding the above abandonment.

Sincerely,

Brian Nettles

Chicago

Springfield

/bn
Enclosures

(Published in the Brainerd Dispatch, June 8, 2004, 1t.)

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ABANDON
The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company gives notice that on or after June 10, 2004, it intends to file with the Surface Transportation Board, Washington, DC 20423, a petition for exemption under 49 U.S.C. 10502(a) and 49 C.F.R. § 11121, et seq., from the requirements of 49 U.S.C. 10903, for abandonment permitting the abandonment of 1.60 miles of railroad line between railroad Milepost 0.00 and Milepost 1.60 in and near Brainerd, Crow Wing County, Minnesota, which line segment traverses through United States Postal Zip Code 56401. The proceeding will be docketed as No. AB-6 (Sub No. 421X).

The Board's Section of Environmental Analyses (SEA) will generally prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA), which will normally be available 60 days after the filing of the petition for abandonment exemption. Comments on environmental and energy matters should be filed no later than 30 days after the EA becomes available to the public and will be addressed in a Board decision. Interested persons may obtain a copy of the EA or make inquiries regarding environmental matters by writing to the Section of Environmental Analysis, Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20423-0001 or by calling that office at 202-565-1538.

Appropriate offers of financial assistance to continue rail service can be filed with the Board. Requests for environmental conditions, public use conditions, or rail banking/trails use also can be filed with the Board. An original and 10 copies of any pleading that raises matters other than environmental issues (such as trails use, public use, and offers of financial assistance) must be filed directly with the Board's Office of the Secretary, 1925 K Street, N.W., Washington DC 20423-0001 [See 49 CFR 1104.1(a) and 1104.3(a)], and one copy must be served on applicants' representative [See 49 CFR 1104.12(a)]. Questions regarding offers of financial assistance, public use or trails use may be directed to the Board's Office of Public Services at 202-565-1592. Copies of any comments or requests for conditions should be served on the applicant's representative Michael Smith, Freeborn & Peters, 311 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 3000, Chicago, Illinois 60606-6677 - telephone (312) 360-6724.

Affidavit of Publication

State of Minnesota)

County of Crow Wing)

ss.

Angela Hart, being duly sworn, on oath says that he/she is the publisher or authorized agent and employee of the publisher of the newspaper known as the Brainerd Dispatch, and has full knowledge of the facts which are stated below:

(A) The newspaper has complied with all of the requirements constituting qualification as a qualified newspaper, as provided by Minnesota Statute 331A.02, 331A.07, and other applicable laws, as amended.

(B) The printed Notice Of Intent To Abandon which is attached was cut from the columns of said newspaper, and was printed and published once each week, for 1 successive weeks; it was first published on Tuesday the 8th day of June, 2004, and was thereafter printed and published on every _____ to and including _____ the _____ day of _____, 2004; and printed below is a copy of the lower case alphabet from A to Z, both inclusive, which is hereby acknowledged as being the size and kind of type used in the composition and publication of the notice.

abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

By: _____

Title: Agent

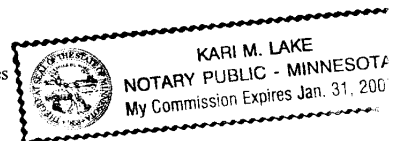
Subscribed and sworn to before me on this 8th day of June, 2004

Notary Public, Minnesota

(Notarial Seal)

My Commission Expires

Publication Fee \$91.91



RATE INFORMATION

- (1) Lowest classified rate paid by commercial users for comparable space \$12.63 /column inch
- (2) Maximum rate allowed by law for the above matter \$12.63 /column inch
- (3) Rate actually charged for the above matter \$12.63 /column inch

